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09/675,047	09/28/2000	David Kammer	PALM-3196	8585

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EXAMINER	
LE, LANA N	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2685	11

DATE MAILED: 09/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/675,047	KAMMER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Lana N Le	2685	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 September 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-26* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 05/26/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding independent claims 1, 10, and 18 and dependent claims 2-4, referred to by applicant's remarks, applicant alleges that broadcast signals are not directed signals. However, the "idle sense message" is the broadcast signal wherein the directed signal is the second signal received by the slave device "the transmission of data" after it responded back to the master device. The idle sense message can be considered a form of broadcast signal since idle sense messages are broadcasted to all the slave devices and not just a specific signal directed to one slave device.

The cited reference discloses while entering standby mode (power conserve mode) the slave device does not scan idle sense messages and does not respond to those idle sense messages (nondiscoverable mode) as is the case of entering the non-discoverable mode while in standby mode.

Applicant also argue that in non-discoverable mode, the responder device will not scan for and respond to broadcast signals but will receive and respond to directed signals. However, this is not claimed since the directed signal is received in connectable mode (i.e. as in claim 1) or discoverable mode (i.e. as in claims 2 & 3).

Also, "discoverable" mode is not specified in the claims as to what it is and what it does and therefore could read on the awake mode of the cited reference, Mahany.

Connectable mode as is explained in the specification page 29, line 16-18, as being in connectable mode when the device is either in discoverable or non-discoverable mode (sleep mode) and therefore the cited reference, Mahany, could read on the connectable mode when it is in activation mode. Even though the reference does not explicitly disclose entering discoverable mode while entering awake mode, the cited

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which the subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8, 10-16 and 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by anticipated by Mahany et al (US 5,657,317) in view of admitted prior art.

Regarding claim 1, Mahany et al discloses in a responder device (peripheral LAN slave device) having a transceiver (col 44, lines 62-65) for wireless communication (col 41, lines 40- col 42, line 10), a method for managing responses to signals received from initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices) (col 40, lines 18-37; col 39, lines 39-42; col 51, lines 14-28), the method comprising the steps of:

a) automatically setting the responder device to discoverable mode (scan for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters awake mode (activation mode during periods 3209, 3213, 3217), wherein the responder device in the discoverable

mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals broadcast by initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices) (col 51, lines 33-36; lines 37-39; lines 41-49); and

b) automatically setting the responder device to non-discoverable mode (does not scan for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters standby mode (power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, 3223), wherein the responder device in the non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices (col 51, lines 35-37; lines 39-41; lines 50-53 the responder device does not respond to broadcast wireless signals "the idle sense message" while it is in power conserving mode); and

automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode (wherein in the specification page 29, lines 16-18, connectable mode is defined to be in either discoverable mode or in non-discoverable mode) with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode (activation mode) receives and responds to directed wireless signals (transmission of data during time period 3219) from initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices; col 51, lines 48-50).

However, Mahany et al fail to further disclose:

directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device.

The admitted prior art discloses wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device (page 4, line 20 – page 5, line 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to identify the

responder device in order to allow the initiator device to send specific information belonging to the unique device, to, i.e. an address which was sent by the responder device in response to the broadcast wireless signal above.

Regarding claim 2, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

c) receiving at the responder device a first wireless signal, "request to send type message" broadcast by an initiator device (col 51, lines 41-45);

d) sending a second wireless signal, "clear to send type message" in response to the first wireless signal when the responder device is in the discoverable mode, wherein the second wireless signal is to be received by the initiator device (col 51, lines 45-47);

e) disregarding the first wireless signal when the responder device is in the non-discoverable mode (during power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223 even when the LAN master device transmits an idle sense message, the LAN slave device does not acknowledge or ignores the message because it is still in power conserving mode, col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53; see also col 52, lines 20-23 when the master device transmit the idle sense message and doesn't receive a response from the slave device when it determines that no communication is desired from the peripheral device.

Regarding claim 10, Mahany et al discloses in a responder device (peripheral LAN slave device), having a transceiver for wireless communication (col 44, lines 62-65), a method for managing responses to signals received from initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices), the method comprising the steps of:

receiving at the responder device a first wireless signal broadcast (idle messages) by an initiator device, wherein the first wireless signal is to be received by multiple responder devices within range of the initiator device (col 51, lines 41-45; col 44, lines 41-65);

automatically entering a discoverable mode (scanning for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters awake mode (activation mode during periods 3209, 3213, and 3217) (col 51, lines 33-36; lines 37-39, lines 41-49),

wherein the responder device in the discoverable mode sends a second wireless signal (clear to send message) wherein the second wireless signal is to be received by the initiator device (col 51, lines 45-47).

automatically entering a non-discoverable mode (does not scan for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters standby mode (power conserving mode), wherein the responder device in the non-discoverable mode receives but does not send a response to the first wireless signal (during power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223 even when the LAN master device transmits an idle sense message, the LAN slave device receives the idle sense message but ignores the message because it is still in power conserving mode, col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53; see also col 52, lines 20-23 when the master device transmit the idle sense message and doesn't receive a response from the slave device when it determines that no communication is desired from the peripheral device and;

automatically entering a connectable mode (activation mode) with the responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode wherein said responder device

in said connectable mode (activation mode) receives and responds to a directed wireless signal (transmission of data during time period 3219) from initiator device (peripheral LAN master devices; col 51, lines 48-50).

However, Mahany et al fail to further disclose:

wherein the directed wireless signal identifies said responder device.

The admitted prior art discloses wherein directed wireless signal identifies said responder device so that only the responder device and not any other of the multiple responder devices within the range of the initiator device receives the directed wireless signal (by sending the transmission of data of Mahany et al to a specific address that the slave device had sent back to the master device after it had received the broadcasted signal; page 4, line 20 – page 5, line 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to identify the responder device in order to allow the initiator device to send specific information belonging to the unique device, to, i.e. an address which was sent by the responder device in response to the broadcast wireless signal above.

Regarding claims 3 and 11, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claims 2 and 10 respectively, further comprising:

receiving a third wireless signal (transmission of data during time period 3219) from the initiator device, wherein the third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to the responder device in response to the second wireless signal (col 51, lines 48-50).

Regarding claims 4 and 12, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claims 3 and 11 respectively, wherein the responder device is in a connectable mode (activation mode) at all times the responder device is powered on (col 51, lines 45-53).

Regarding claim 18, Mahany et al discloses a responder device (peripheral LAN slave device), comprising:

a bus connected to interface 3115 (fig. 30; col 48, lines 24-38);

a wireless transceiver unit 3110 coupled to the bus and for communicating with initiator devices (peripheral LAN master device) (col 49, lines 24-39);

and a processor 3121 coupled to the bus via the interface, the processor for performing a method for managing responses to signals received from the initiator devices (col 49, lines 40-59), the method comprising the steps of:

automatically setting the responder device (peripheral LAN slave device) to discoverable mode (scanning for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters awake mode (activation mode during periods 3209, 3213, and 3217), wherein the responder device in the discoverable mode scans for and responds to broadcast wireless signals that are broadcast by initiator devices (col 51, lines 33-36; lines 37-39, lines 41-49);

b) automatically setting the responder device to non-discoverable mode (does not scan for idle messages mode) when the responder device enters standby mode (power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223), wherein the responder device in the non-discoverable mode does not scan for and does not respond

to broadcast wireless signals broadcast by the initiator devices (peripheral LAN master device) (col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53); and

automatically setting said responder device to connectable mode (wherein in the specification page 29, lines 16-18, connectable mode is defined to be in either discoverable mode or in non-discoverable mode) with said responder device in either said awake mode or said standby mode, wherein said responder device in said connectable mode (activation mode) receives and responds to directed wireless signals (transmission of data during time period 3219) from initiator devices (peripheral LAN master devices; col 51, lines 48-50).

However, Mahany et al fail to further disclose:

wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device.

The admitted prior art discloses wherein directed wireless signals specifically identify said responder device (page 4, line 20 – page 5, line 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to identify the responder device in order to allow the initiator device to send specific information belonging to the unique device, to, i.e. an address which was sent by the responder device in response to the broadcast wireless signal above.

Regarding claim 19, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claim 18 further comprises:

receiving at the responder device a first wireless signal broadcast by an initiator device (col 51, lines 41-45);

sending a second wireless signal in response to the first wireless

signal when the responder device is in the discoverable mode, wherein the second wireless signal is to be received by the initiator device (col 51, lines 45-47);

disregarding the first wireless signal when the responder device is

in the non-discoverable mode (during power conserving mode during time periods 3211, 3215, and 3223 even when the LAN master device transmits an idle sense message, the LAN slave device does not acknowledge or ignores the message because it is in power conserving mode, col 51, lines 35-37, lines 39-41, lines 50-53; see also col 52, lines 20-23 when the master device transmit the idle sense message and doesn't receive a response from the slave device when it determines that no communication is desired from the peripheral device.

Regarding claim 20, Mahany et al further discloses the responder device of claim 19 further comprises:

receiving a third wireless signal (transmission of data during time period 3219) from the initiator device (master device), wherein the third wireless signal is a directed signal sent to the responder device in response to the second wireless signal (col 51, lines 48-50).

Regarding claim 21, Mahany et al further discloses responder device of claim 20 wherein the responder device is in a connectable mode at all times (activation mode) the responder device is powered on (col 51, lines 45-53).

Regarding claims 5 and 13, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claim 2 and 11 respectively, wherein the initiator device and the responder device are in short-range communication (col 39, lines 39-42). Mahany et al didn't specifically

disclose Bluetooth-enabled devices. However, it is well known in the art as is admitted in figure 1 of applicant's disclosure (page 3, lines 5-7, page 1, lines 18-21) that short range communication comprises of Blue-tooth enabled devices. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use bluetooth devices in order to allow the short-ranged devices of Mahany et al to communicate consistently with each other with data synchronization.

Regarding claims 6 and 14, the admitted prior art further discloses the method as recited in claim 5 and 13 respectively, wherein the first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for the responder device (page 2, lines 19-22; page 3, lines 10-12).

Regarding claims 7 and 15, the admitted prior art further discloses the method as recited in claim 6 and 13 respectively, wherein the second wireless signal comprises the address for the responder device (page 3, lines 20-24).

Regarding claims 8 and 16, the admitted prior art further discloses the method as recited in claims 7 and 15 respectively, wherein the third wireless signal is a page message 44a directed to the address and comprising a request for a name of the responder device (page 4, line 20 – page 5, line 2).

Regarding claim 22, Mahany et al further discloses the responder device of claim 20, wherein the initiator device and the responder device are in short-range communication (col 39, lines 39-42). Mahany et al didn't specifically disclose Bluetooth-enabled devices. However, it is well known in the art as is admitted in figure 1 of applicant's disclosure (page 3, lines 5-7, page 1, lines 18-21) that short range

communication comprises of Bluetooth enabled devices. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use bluetooth devices in order to allow the short range devices of Mahany et al to communicate consistently with each other with data synchronization.

Regarding claim 23, the admitted prior art further discloses the responder device of claim 22, wherein the first wireless signal is an inquiry message requesting an address for the responder device (page 2, lines 19-22; page 3, lines 10-12).

Regarding claim 24, the admitted prior art further discloses the responder device of claim 23 wherein the second wireless signal comprises the address for the responder device (page 3, lines 20-24).

Regarding claim 25, the admitted prior art further discloses the responder device of claim 24, wherein the third wireless signal is a page message 44a directed to the address and comprising a request for a name of the responder device (page 4, line 21 - page 5, line 2).

2. Claims 9, 17, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahany et al (US 5,657,317) in view of the admitted prior art and further in view of Vook et al (US 5,625,882).

Regarding claims 9 and 17, Mahany et al further discloses the method as recited in claims 1 and 10 respectively, wherein Mahany et al didn't further disclose the responder device is a portable computer system. Vook et al discloses the responder device is a portable computer system (col 2, line 55 – col 3, lines 13). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a portable computer system as a responder device in order to have an alternative type of device from a wide variety of possible devices that can process the infrared data information.

Regarding claim 26, Mahany et al further discloses the responder device of claim 18 wherein Mahany et al didn't further disclose the responder device is a portable computer system. Vook et al discloses the responder device is a portable computer system (col 2, line 55 – col 3, lines 13). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a portable computer system as a responder device in order to have an alternative type of device from a wide variety of possible devices that can process the infrared data information.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lana Le whose telephone number is (703) 308-5836. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Urban can be reached on (703) 305-4385. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9315 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Lana Le

August 9, 2004